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A portable DNA sequence is disclosed which is capable of directing intracellular production of metalloproteinase inhibitors. Vectors containing this portable DNA sequence are also set forth, including the vector pUC9-F5/237P10 (ATCC Accession No. 53003). A recombinant-DNA method for the microbial production of a metalloproteinase inhibitor, which method incorporates at least one of the portable DNA sequences and the vectors disclosed herein.

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